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IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please enter replacement FIG. 1b of drawing sheet 1/3, as submitted herewith.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application. By the present amendment. FIG. 1b has been replaced. No new matter is believed to be added. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection in view of the amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Examiner stated that FIG. 1b should include textual information in the interconnected boxes. The Applicant has replaced FIG. 1b accordingly and submits the same for approval. The labels for FIG. 1b were obtained from the description in the specification. No new matter is believed to be added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5.959,536 to Chambers et al. (hereinafter Chambers).

Chambers is directed to a control system that assists in setting up communications between devices in a distributed system. Chambers includes the uses of a device abstraction to equalize less sophisticated devices with more sophisticated devices. The device abstraction is provided to make up for the deficiencies of the actual physical devices (see Abstract). Chambers provides protocols and event managing services to set up and maintain a distributed system of devices. However, Chambers does not disclose or suggest each and every limitation recited in the present claims. For example, Chambers fails to disclose or suggest, *inter alia*, formulating, by a local object, a request for a <u>list of objects</u>, the request being transmitted to the single local registry of the device hosting the local object; propagating the request <u>through the local registry</u> to distant registries; and <u>collecting the responses</u> to the request by the distant registries and the response of the local registry.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a method for the distributed management of a catalogue of

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objects in a communication network comprising devices including "... formulating, by a local object, a request for a list of objects, the request being transmitted to the single local registry of the device hosting the local object; propagating the request through the local registry to distant registries; collecting the responses to the request by the distant registries and the response of the local registry ... ."

Chambers includes a registry to locate Abstract Devices based on attributes. Objects can find attributes by "querying by attribute" as described at col. 8, lines 1-16. The objects described in Chambers do not formulate a request for a list of objects, the request being transmitted to the single local registry of the device hosting the local object. There is no teaching or suggestion in Chambers that such a request is propagated through the local registry to distant registries. In addition, Chambers does not collect the responses to the request by the distant registries and the response of the local registry. Nowhere in Chambers are responses collected for distant and local registries.

In a network of electronic devices, communications are provided so that the different devices of the network communicate. In such a network, a device (or a node) of the network may need to know the access path to, or the address of, another device. A device can include several software modules or objects. The technical problem the present invention seeks to solve is how to obtain a **dynamic list of resources that are available in a network comprising devices.**

Chambers does not disclose all the features of claim 1. Chambers discloses a task-driven distributed multimedia consumer system. In Chambers, a control system comprises multiple consumer electronics devices and task-driven control means coupled to the devices for controlling an interaction among the devices. The control means of Chambers acts on respective

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software representations of each respective one of the consumer devices. By encapsulating the variable complexity of the task within a software representation, it can be made as simple or as sophisticated as needed to bring the capabilities up to a common level. In Chambers, since the level of interface is common to the devices, applications can uniformly manipulate devices which embody very different levels of sophistication.

Chambers does not disclose or suggest the formulation of a request for a <u>list</u> of objects or <u>collecting</u> responses to a request by distant registries. One skilled in the art reading Chambers would never arrive at the solution recited in claim 1. For at least these reasons, claim 1 and dependent claims 2-8 are believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the stated reasons. Reconsideration of the rejection is earnestly solicited.

Regarding claim 9, claim 9 includes the same (or similar) elements as claim 1. In particular, the device as claimed in claim 9 comprises, *inter alia*: means for propagating a request for a <u>list of objects</u> formulated by a local object <u>to the local registries</u> of other devices and means for <u>collecting the responses</u> of the registries of the other devices and the response of the local registry and for transmitting the responses to the object having formulated the request (for a list of objects). Claim 9 and dependent claim 10 are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance due at least to the above-mentioned reasons.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the case is respectfully requested.

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It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the application, they may be charged to applicant's Deposit Account No. 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: _12/22/07_   By: _____
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